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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of
Masanobu SATO et al.

Confirmation No.: 4349

Date: May 18, 2006

Serial No.: 10/669,520

Group Art Unit: 1734

Filed: September 24, 2003

Examiner: Yewebdar T. TADESSE

For: SUBSTRATE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND SUBSTRATE PROCESSING
SYSTEM

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action mailed March 9, 2006 in the above-identified application. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

In the event the actual fee is greater than the payment submitted or is inadvertently not enclosed or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

CONTINGENT EXTENSION REQUEST

If this communication is filed after the shortened statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is petitioned, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.135. The fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS

1. ☐ If checked, an abstract (an amended abstract) is submitted herewith.
2. ☐ If checked, amendment(s) to the drawings are submitted herewith.
3. ☐ If checked, amendment(s) to the specification are submitted herewith.
4. ☒ If checked, amendment(s) to the claims are submitted herewith.